GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:759
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2001
LACKING OF INFRASTRUCTURES AT RAILWAY SIDING
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cement worth crores of rupees get destroyed every year due to rains at Shakur Basti Railway Station in Delhi and at other stations in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that due to lack of infrastructure at railway siding stations, hefty rate of cartage etc., cement traders prefer to get their supplies through trucks than rail;

(c) if so, the loss suffered by the railways thereby; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide better services in transportation of goods by railways to these customers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) No, Sir. An amount of Rs.82 lacks has been paid as compensation on account of damage by wet to cement consignment by Indian Railways during the year 2000- 2001.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Traders prefer to transport cement in trucks due to overall logistics cost considerations, movement of smaller quantities, smaller distance of movement to consumption centres near cement plants, avoidance of extra handling of consignment etc, and not due to lack of infrastructural facilities provided by the Railways. However, augmentation/improvement of facilities is a continuing activity to provide better services.